is proposed to rebuild the facilities at SCL using this opportunity to the extent feasible to upgrade the technology level and a plan for this is under finalisation. SCL is expected to resume manufacture of LSI/VLSI chips through in-house diffusion in about 2 years after the project for rebuilding SCL is initiated.

Withdrawal of Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone

*120. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had informed the Kelkar Committee that Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone were very harmful drugs and were likely to be banned in the near future;

(b) if so, when and on what basis such comments were made;

(c) whether his Ministry is the final authority to allow marketing and withdrawal of drugs in the country;

(d) if so, by when these drugs are likely to be withdrawn; and

(e) the names of the countries where such drugs have been withdraw and the reasons for their withdrawal in those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, State drug control administration can stop marketing and also order withdrawal in accordance with the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules.

d) and (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The experts consulted have not recommended withdrawal of Oxyphenbutazone/Phenylbutazone as these are considered as drug of choice for certain musculo skeletal disorders such as ankylosing spondylitis and gouty arthrits. The use of these drugs have been restricted for these two indications.

Phenylbutazone is reported to be withdrawan in Norway, Jordan and United Arab Emirates.

Oxyphenbutazone has been withdrawn in Norway, Israel, U.K., United Arab Emirates, Finland, Jordan and Zimbabwe.

These drugs were reported to be withdrawn in some countries on the ground that their systematic use may cause bone marrow depression. However, both these drugs continue to be marketed for restricted indications in many other countries.

Irration fixed dose combination of Tranquilizers with Vitamins

649. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2128 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Tranquilizers and Vitamines are irrational;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to reconsider the marketing of these combinations based on rationality; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) The question of rationality of fixed dose